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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
U.S. FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 1943

THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION

The Food Distribution Administration is responsible for planning the distribution of the Nation's food supplies so as best to meet the requirements of our armed forces, our civilian population, and our fighting Allies. It was set up December 5, 1942, under the provisions of Executive Order 9280, as part of the reorganization of the Department of Agriculture to facilitate the operation of the country's wartime food program.

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Food Distribution Administration makes recommendations for action by the War Food Administration (the over-all food agency of which FDA is a part) on wartime food problems such as the following:

1. Allocation of available food supplies among the three major groups -- the armed forces, civilian population, and our Allies.
2. Development of nutritional standards to assist in the formulation of recommendations for the efficient allocation of available food supplies.
3. Development of programs for conservation of food supplies by producers, food industries, and consumers.
4. Planning purchases of foodstuffs and other agricultural products to meet the wartime needs of the military services and other Government agencies of our territories and our United Nation Allies.
5. Development of programs designed to bring about economies in the distribution of farm and food products before and after processing.
6. Rationing of various foods to assure equitable distribution of the limited supplies available. Such recommendations are made through the War Food Administration to the Office of Price Administration, which puts necessary rationing programs into effect.
7. Programs to allocate raw food materials to processors to get the most efficient production and distribution of processed food.
8. Programs designed to procure necessary new or used material needed for food processing to insure adequate processing facilities. Recommendations under these programs are made through the War Food Administration to the War Production Board, which assigns priorities for necessary materials and equipment.

(Over)

9. Determination of what food products are most urgently needed. Recommendations on this subject are made to the War Food Administration so that preference may be given necessary commodities in planning farm production.

In the effort to bring about a fair and equitable distribution of our available food supplies to meet wartime demands, a series of Food Distribution Orders has been instituted.

These orders, administered by the Food Distribution Administration, have various purposes, as outlined above. Some are directed at bringing about economies in the processing and distribution of food to help prevent increased consumer costs and to conserve manpower, transportation, and processing facilities. Others specifically allocate certain foods among civilians and for direct war requirements. Some have the purpose of holding back from regular commercial channels a portion of available supplies to make sure that military requirements can be fully met. Still others allocate foods in short supply so they will go as far as possible and will not disappear too fast in the face of greatly expanded consumer buying. Many of the orders combine several of these purposes.

In addition, the Food Distribution Administration has a number of other responsibilities formerly conducted by the Agricultural Marketing Administration, the Food Division and other units of the War Production Board, the Sugar Agency of the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, and those units of the Bureau of Animal Industry concerned primarily with inspection and regulatory work. The functions and personnel of these agencies have been absorbed by FDA.

Other work of the FDA includes standardization, inspection, and grading of farm products, the Nation-wide market news service and regulation of various phases of the marketing of farm products. All these functions owe their existence to everyday needs of farm marketing -- needs that continue and keep pace with demands of war.

The FDA administers a large number of market service and regulatory statutes. Among them are the Commodity Exchange Act under which the principal commodity exchanges of the country are supervised; the Meat Inspection Act which prevents the interstate shipment of meats which are unfit for human food; the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act which suppresses unfair and fraudulent practices in the marketing of fresh fruits and vegetables; the Sugar Act which regulates sugar marketings in interstate and foreign commerce by the imposition of quotas; the Produce Agency Act, the Packers and Stockyards Act, the Standard Containers Acts, the Insecticide Act, the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act, and others - 24 in all.

One of the more important activities of FDA which are a direct outgrowth of the war, is the purchase of food and other products for Lend-Lease shipment to our fighting Allies, which was begun in the spring of 1941. Under this program food and other agricultural products have been sent abroad to aid those nations fighting the Axis, particularly Britain and Russia. The quantities sent have been

tremendous, but have amounted to only a small percentage of total American farm production. Up to February 1, 1943, over 9.5 billion pounds of agricultural commodities were delivered for shipment under this program. But during the entire year of 1942, these deliveries amounted to only about 6 percent of total U.S. farm production.

In recent months, FDA purchases have averaged more than \$5,000,000 daily. Most of these purchases have been for our Allies, but some of the food has gone to feed our people in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and to other natives of the Caribbean area. Some has gone to the Red Cross for prisoners of war and refugees. Increasingly large amounts are expected to be purchased for the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation -- for the feeding of the civil population of countries formerly occupied by the Axis.

In carrying out these wartime responsibilities, the FDA has centered a major part of its line work in nine commodity branches - Cotton and Fiber, Dairy and Poultry, Fats and Oils, Fruit and Vegetable, Grain Products, Livestock and Meat, Special Commodities, Sugar, and Tobacco.

Each of these branches initiates and carries out programs dealing with wartime food problems for the commodities under its jurisdiction. This includes regulatory work, distribution economics, purchases and price support, and administration of Food Distribution Orders. These branches study anticipated demand and cooperate with other FDA and departmental agencies to obtain needed production on the farm. They develop and administer programs for production of food in processed form and cooperate in administration of distribution programs, including allocation, reservation, limitation, and conservation orders, and they recommend rationing plans. In addition, they cooperate with industry in improvement of processing, packaging and distribution, recommend allocation of materials needed for processing plants, initiate and execute procurement programs, diversion programs, marketing agreements, and conduct marketing investigations.

To facilitate the handling of business with the Food Distribution Administration, the following list of key personnel, with their respective duties, has been compiled.

Director of FDA is Roy F. Hendrickson, native of Iowa. He attended the University of Minnesota; entered newspaper work in 1924; member of Associated Press staff in Washington immediately prior to entering Government service. Was formerly a member of staff of Bureau of Agricultural Economics; Director of Personnel of Department of Agriculture. Successively Administrator of Surplus Marketing Administration and Agricultural Marketing Administration. Office, Room 319-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4687.

There are four deputy directors of FDA.

Deputy Director C. W. Kitchen, native of Ohio. He has been with Department of Agriculture since 1912 and since then has been closely identified with marketing research, service, and regulatory work. Heads up activities of the nine commodity branches. Office, Room 313-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4403.

Deputy Director Ralph W. Olmstead, native of Idaho. He is a graduate University of Idaho and George Washington University Law School. Secretary to former U. S. Senator Pope of Idaho. Heads up activities of the ten Service Branches and Divisions of FDA, procurement programs and acts as liaison with armed forces. Office, Room 303W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 3487.

Deputy Director J. S. Russell, native of Iowa. Educated at Grinnell College, Iowa. For past 17 years, farm editor of Des Moines Register and Tribune. Heads up the three civilian requirements and program branches of FDA. Office, Room 327-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4455.

Deputy Director E. A. Meyer, native of Ohio; in food processing business from 1920 to 1941, engaging in all phases -- production, sales, and distribution. Formerly with Office of Production Management and formerly Chief of Canned Goods Section of War Production Board and Assistant Director, Food Division, WPB. Heads up activities of four facilities branches for food trades. Office, Room 328-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4453.

There are four Assistants to the Director:

Special Assistant Arthur C. Bartlett, native of Maine and graduate of Bowdoin College. Formerly editor on "American Magazine" and "Country Home" magazine. Heads up regional operations, public relations, and special assignments in FDA. Office, Room 308-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4081.

Assistant to the Director S. R. Newell, native of Virginia; graduate of University of Maryland, American University, and took graduate study at Harvard University. With Department of Agriculture since 1926. Handles field administrative operations including co-operative agreements, inspection and grading work of FDA. Office, Room 308-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 2810.

Assistant to the Director Norman Leon Gold, born at Davidson, Saskatchewan, Canada; graduated from University of British Columbia; Ph.D., from University of California. With Department of Agriculture since 1934 in economic analysis work. Heads up special studies and reports, prepares material for Food Advisory Committee meetings for FDA. Office, Room 334-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 5977.

Economic Advisor Budd A. Holt, native of Minnesota; received B.S. and M.A. degrees from University of Minnesota, where he later taught and did research work. Joined Department of Agriculture in 1933. Formerly Assistant Administrator of Agricultural Marketing Administration. Office, Room 334-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 2829.

Chief of Requirements and Allocations Control John M. Cassels (reporting directly to the Director) was born in Stirling, Scotland; graduate of University of Alberta, Canada; Rhodes scholar at Oxford University and instructor of economics at Harvard University. Was appointed to the National Defense Advisory Committee in 1940. Heads up the assembling and correlating of data on food requirements of armed forces, civilians, allied and friendly nations, territories, and other claimants on U. S. food supplies. Office, Room 341-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4206.

COMMODITY BRANCHES

Cotton and Fiber, Chief, Carl H. Robinson, Room 302 Annex Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 2145.

Dairy and Poultry, Chief, T. G. Stitts, Room 2969 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4392.

Fats and Oils, Acting Chief, R. W. Capps, Room 2001 Temporary Building "S." Telephone, Republic 7500, Ext. 3233.

Fruit and Vegetable, Chief, W. G. Meal, Room 2051 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 6125.

Grain Products, Chief, E. J. Murphy, Room 2227 South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, 2211.

Livestock and Meat, Chief, H. E. Reed, Room 3857 South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 5705.

Special Commodities, Chief, H. C. Albin, Room 1235 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 2741.

Sugar, Chief, Joshua Bernhardt, Room 1095 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4695.

Tobacco, Chief, Charles E. Gage, Room 503 Annex Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 2262.

SERVICE BRANCHES AND DIVISIONS

Compliance Branch, Chief, J. M. Mehl, Room 2867 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Telephone, Ext. 4452.

Program Liaison Division, Chief, J. P. Hatch, Room 433-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 5173.

Program Analysis and Appraisal Branch, Chief, F. V. Wargh, Room 2113, South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 3581.

Transportation and Warehousing Branch, Chief, W. C. Crow, Room 5087 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 5756.

Administrative Services Division, Chief, F. J. Hughes, Room 2079 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone 4405.

Budget Division, Chief, J. E. Hoofnagle, Room 5305 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, 5993.

Finance and Accounts Division, Chief, E. J. Kelly, Room 6202 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone 4753.

Marketing Reports Division, Chief, Marvin M. Sandstrom, Room 2620 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 5604.

Organization and Procedure Division, Chief, H. I. Dunkleberger, Room 2757 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 2202.

Personnel Division, Chief, F. C. McMillen, Room 6421 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 6207.

Audit and Fiscal Examination Division, Chief, D. J. Harrill, Room 4321, South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4706.

CIVILIAN FOOD PROGRAM BRANCHES

Civilian Food Requirements Branch, Chief, Russell M. Wilder, Room 347-W, Administration Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 2762.

Civilian Program Branch, Acting Chief, C. F. Kunkel, Room 2171, South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4224.

Nutrition and Food Conservation Branch, Chief, M. L. Wilson, Room 3031, South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 3377.

FOOD TRADE BRANCHES

Facilities Branch, Chief, J. B. Wyckoff, Room 2095 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 3111.

Processors Branch, Acting Chief, Josiah G. Fort, Room 2085 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 5681.

Wholesalers and Retailers Branch, Chief, Daniel A. West, Room 5027 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone, Ext. 4741.

Food Industries Labor Branch, Acting Chief, Arthur J. Homaas,
Room 4315 South Building, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Telephone,
Ext. 2036.

REGIONAL OFFICES

In addition, FDA has seven regional offices. Their location and the names and addresses of the Regional Administrators follow:

Northeast Region, (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia) Buell F. Maben, 150 Broadway, New York.

Southern Region, (Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida) James H. Palmer, 101 Marietta Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

Southwestern Region, (Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana) Lester J. Cappleman, 425 Wilson Building, Dallas, Tex.

Great Lakes Region, (Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio) Eral O. Pollock, 5 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Midwest Region, (North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri) Francis D. Cronin, Old Colony Building, Des Moines, Iowa.

Rocky Mountain Region, (Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico) Leonard R. Trainer, 1536 Welton Street, Denver, Colo.

Pacific Region, (Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, and Arizona) Merritt A. Clevenger, 821 Market Street, San Francisco, Calif.

